



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
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[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt

Date: Tuesday January 19, 2016

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Email: [nhiggitt@sahra.org.za](mailto:nhiggitt@sahra.org.za)

CaseID: 8913

## **Final Comment**

### **In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)**

Attention: Site Plan Consulting  
PO Box 28  
Strand  
7139

**An application for a mining permit is being lodged with the Department of Mineral Resources Northern Cape, in order to mine the deposits on the farm. The proposed borrow pit will provide suitable quality aggregate material for the construction/maintenance of gravel access roads, and turbine platforms to serve several large wind energy projects currently underway in the area. The proposed application area is 4.52 ha in extent, of which the borrow pit excavation itself will be less than 1.0 ha. The excavation method will be linear trenches about 10-15m wide, running for a length of 1.4km. Excavations will be to an average depth of 3m. Mining is to be conducted as a standard open cast operation with direct loading into dump trucks or mobile crusher hopper. The dolerite dyke has previously been mined for road gravel material.**

Site Plan Consulting CC was appointed by Power Construction (Pty) Ltd to compile a Mining Permit Application for a borrow pit in compliance with the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 Of 2002) (MPRDA). A Draft Scoping Report was completed as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process in accordance with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and the EIA Regulations, 2014. The project is located 55 km from Sutherland on the farm of Karreebosch 200 portion 1, in the Northern Cape Province. Power Construction is in the process of submitting three other application for similar developments in the area i.e. Karusa North, Karusa East and on the farm Jakhals Valley 99 portion 3.

Site Plan Consulting contracted Jonathan Kaplan and Johan Almond to conduct the Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) and the Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) for the proposed quarry.

*Kaplan, 2015. Archaeological Impact Assessment for the proposed borrow pit (Karusa R354) on the farm Karreebosch 200/1 near Sutherland, Northern Cape.*

The author assessed the proposed borrow pit area and recorded the survey through photographs and a track log. A total of four surface occurrences of Stone Age lithics were recorded within the project area. The Stone Age lithics include Middle Stone Age flakes and chunks, and Later Stone Age flakes. These were given a rating of low significance. A possible grave was identified 10 m from the proposed project area. The feature



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comprises a circle of dolerite rocks and no headstone or grave goods were noted. The grave was given a rating of moderate to high significance.

Recommendations provided in the AIA include the following:

- The possible grave must be fenced off prior to construction. Alternatively, a 10 m buffer around the site must be established;
- Should any other human remains be uncovered during the mining operations, these are to be reported to SAHRA or Jonathan Kaplan; and
- The above recommendations must be included in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the project.

*Almond, 2015. Recommended Exemption from further Palaeontological Studies for the proposed exploitation of fresh and weathered dolerite from four quarry sites near Sutherland, Namaqua District Municipality, Northern Cape.*

The author assessed all four application areas in one combined report. The author found that the Karusa R354 application area is underlain by unfossiliferous dolerite intrusions and the potentially fossiliferous Abrahamskraal Formation. The Abrahamskraal formation may contain invertebrate trace fossils, compressions and rare fossil wood impressions. The anticipated impact of the proposed development is deemed to be low.

Recommendations provided in the Palaeontological study state that should any substantial fossil remains be uncovered during the construction phase, they should be reported to SAHRA for mitigation by a professional palaeontologist.

## **Final Comment**

The recommendations provided in the AIA and PIA must be included in the final EMP. The following additional conditions must be adhered to and must form part of the final EMP:

- The possible grave (Site 061) must be fenced off prior to construction. A buffer of 30 m must be maintained around the site;
- A Status Quo or Site Monitoring Report must be conducted on the possible grave every year for the duration of the life of the project. This report must include photographs of the identified heritage resources, any updates on the borrow pit project with regards to layout and a written report on the status of the heritage resources. This report can be completed by the Environmental Control Officer



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(ECO) or a qualified archaeologist. This report must be submitted on the SAHRIS case file for comment;

- A Chance Finds Procedures and Fossil Finds Procedure must be developed for the project to ensure that standard protocols and steps are followed should any heritage and/or fossil resources be uncovered during excavations. These procedures should outline the steps and reporting structure to be followed in the instance that heritage resources are found.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

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Natasha Higgitt  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Phillip Hine  
SAHRA Head Archaeologist (Acting)  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/353507>  
(DMR - NC, Ref: NC30/5/1/3/2/10504MP)

Terms & Conditions:

**Proposed borrow pit (Karusa R354) on the Farm Karreebosch 200/1 near  
Sutherland, Northern Cape**  
**Our Ref:**



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1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.